[English]

Astrology in Universities

3481. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to establish and chair for Astrology in some of the Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Licence for Blood Banks

3482. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow the Government of Kerala Drug Control Department to issue licences for blood banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In Rule 122 F of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945 a licence for operation of Blood bank is granted or renewed by the State Licensing Authority subject to the approval of Central Licence Approving Authority.

Buses in U.P.

3483. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Uttar Pradesh State Roadways Transport Corporation buses plying in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce new buses in the State during 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Ratification of C.T.B.T.

3484. SHRI CHITTA BASU

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether C.T.B.T. has been opened for signature after its endorsement by the UN General Assembly;

(b) if so, how many countries have signed it and ratified the same, till date; and

(c) whether it has been brought into force?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was opened for signature on 24th September, 1996.

(b) 137 countries have signed the C.T.B.T. till 4th December, 1996. To date, only Fiji has ratified it.

(c) No, Sir.

Functioning of IIT, Delhi

3485. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that in the Undergraduate level in Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi surveying is being taught by Environmental Engineer, Geology is being taught by faculty member having background of Rock Mechanics, Environmental Engineering is being taught by faculty members with background of Water Resources;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint a Committee to go into the state of affairs IIT, Delhi with a view to improve its functioning and terming it at par with other IITs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are the Institutes of National Importance attracting and retaining highly qualified, talented faculty. The courses in Surveying, Geology and Environmental Engineering at Undergraduate level are being taught by experienced and well-qualified faculty.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.